THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Government has not received any response from prospective DTH providers to the new policy.

(b) The DTH system would offer an alternative, in addition to the existing cable network, for reception of television programmes by the consumers.

(c) The policy does not envisage any restriction on the number of licensees for DTH.

Decision to Impose Curbs on Cable TVS

1519. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to impose curbs on cable TVs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether cable TVs ar telecasting advertisements and programmes in violation of rules; and

(d) if so, to what extent curbs imposed on Cable TVs would effectively check their activities;

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (d) Incidence of violation of programme and advertisement codes, laid down in the Cable Television Network Rules, has to be brought before the officers authorized under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, for enforcement of the provisions of the Cable Act. As and when such incidents of violation by satellite channels, being carried on cable networks in the country, come to the notice of Government, the matter is also taken up with the concerned channel operators for stopping such content. If the channel continues the violation, it will be notified so that the cable operators will be prohibited from carrying that channel in their networks.

Telecasting of DART on DD Sports Channel

1520. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are telecasting international sports events on their DD Sports Channel;

(b) whether a request has been made to promote DART game as a sport by telecasting on DD Sports Channel; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to telecast capsules of DART game as a sport on prime time alots on DD Sports Channel?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d) Yes Sir. Prasar Bharati has intimated that one such request from a foreign company manufacturing DART Boards was received but the same was rejected as the company was indirectly interested in promotion of its products in the Indian market and as per Doordarshan's Code of telecast, such promotion is not allowed.

Surplus Staff in AIR Doordarshan

1521. SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Akashvani and Doordarshan are too much overstaffed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps contemplated to remedy it; and

(d) whether the development of the Official electronic media in the immediate futufre will absorb the surplus cadres?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Prasar Bharati Corporation have informed that there is no surplus staff in Doordarshan and All India Radio as compared to the sanctioned strength.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of New Radio Stations in the Country

1522. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up new radio stations in the country in general and in Tamil Nadu, in particular; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?